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ABSTRACT

This booklet presents a description of Making Connections, a multicultural core curriculum program, and a list of recommended literature for interdisciplinary units. The first section discusses materials, using the Making Connections program, integrating relevant content areas, the stages of the research process, assessment, and making connections using the historical novel "Friedrich." The remainder of the booklet presents an approximately 250-item annotated list of recommended children's literature suitable for use in interdisciplinary units, arranged into sections on kindergarten-first grade, second grade, third grade, United States history in the upper grades, fifth grade, sixth grade, multicultural books for all ages, and reference book collections for children. (RS)

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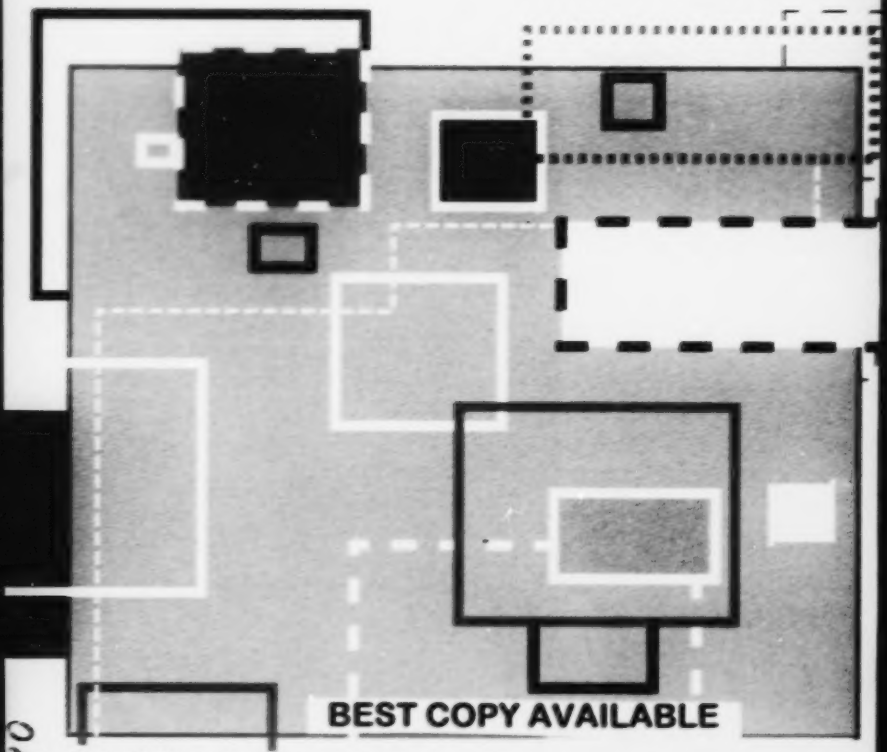

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MAKING CONNECTIONS: LITERATURE AS A BASIS FOR MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES AND INTERDISCIPLINARY EDUCATION

(REVISED EDITION)

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Board of Education of the City of New York

Acknowledgments

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The *Making Connections* program is not new. It originated over 15 years ago in Community School District 15 with the strong support of the District Superintendent, William Casey, and with the assistance of liaisons at each school. Since then the program has spread to many other districts and schools where it has developed according to the school culture and climate.

Carmen Fariña, Principal, P.S. 6, wrote the original manuscript, with the editorial assistance of Crystal Costantinou, Teacher.

Many thanks to P.S. 6 teachers who have opened their classroom doors and welcomed visitors and questions with open minds. Administrators and teachers who see the need for authentic teaching and learning are welcome to visit P.S. 6, a C.S.D. 2 staff development site, to see *Making Connections* in action.

This manuscript has been prepared for publication by the Office of Instructional Publications, Nicholas A. Aiello, Ph.D., Director. Christopher Sgarro designed and edited the book. The cover was designed by Henry Martinez.

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Introduction

Multicultural education strives to increase students' understanding of the many points of view that exist in a culturally diverse society. When students learn about events, cultures, people, and ideas from multiple perspectives, they gain a better understanding of others and, ultimately, themselves.

Making Connections is a multicultural core curriculum program based on social studies that meets both the goals of multicultural education and state curriculum mandates without relying on textbooks alone. Students using the *Making Connections* program begin their course of study by reading novels and biographies that focus on a particular culture and time period. They experience the world of that culture and time period by seeing through the eyes of the child protagonist of a novel or biography. Immersed in the thoughts, feelings, and relationships of the main character, students develop a personal commitment to learning more about a people's culture and history.

As relevant content areas are introduced and tied in, students make meaningful and memorable connections. The interconnectedness of all areas of the curriculum also becomes apparent in the classroom: relevant picture and nonfiction books line the chalkboard ledge; maps, art prints, students' creative writing, and teacher-made charts cover classroom walls.

BEYOND TEXTBOOKS

> *"The textbook is not a moral contract that teachers are obliged to teach—teachers are obliged to teach children."*
>
> —*John Adams*

Traditionally the educational community has seldom incorporated multiple points of view, instead emphasizing a single point of view as an objective representation of facts. While the retention of facts is essential, curriculum should not be merely factual. Curriculum must enrich the heart as well as the mind. *Making Connections* at-

tempts to do both, using historical fiction as a path to a greater understanding of cultures, time periods, events, and people. When historical fiction is integrated with the curriculum content areas, particularly social studies, but also art, science, or writing, students learn to make connections among them.

In its Social Studies Program, the New York State Education Department recommends that students attain historical, geographic, economic, and social/cultural content understandings and key concepts such as "empathy," "interdependence," and "change." Historical fiction encourages students to "walk a mile in another's shoes" and experience times, places, and cultures both long ago and far away. It also helps students to understand how people, places, and cultures rely on others in ways that are often mutually beneficial; through fiction, students better understand themselves and their place in the world. Literature renders the concept of change—the inevitable alteration of things, ideas, people, and cultures over time—more vividly and in greater detail than textbooks generally do. The *Making Connections* program enables the classroom teacher to follow these social studies curriculum mandates by using novels and biographies to enrich and enliven information provided by standard classroom materials.

MATERIALS

Ideally, a unit should consist of all or many of the following:

1. A class novel or several different novels on the same topic to be read by groups in the class. Also, free choice of a novel around a single theme may be allowed. In some classrooms, picture books might serve as the main books.
2. Picture books, fairy tales, folk tales, legends, and poetry from or about the country or time period being studied. These should be prominently displayed in the front area of the classroom.
3. Primary reference materials from up-to-date publishing companies. Books, task cards, and pre-made units for the specific country or time period. (Note: Museums are great sources for these materials.)

4. One or several current, accurate textbooks to serve as references sources, primarily for teacher's use but available to students. Content area books are preferable reference sources.
5. Videos that provide visual information on a country or time period. These enhance and, in some cases, supplement instruction and provide for different learning styles.
6. Books, prints, and videos that elaborate on an artist or an art school (e.g., "Impressionists") or elaborate on the culture of a certain country or time period. (Note: Museums are also great sources for these materials.)
7. Music and books on composers from the country or time period being studied.
8. Books on games, dance, food, and fashions from the country or time period.
9. Geography materials such as time lines, maps, globes, and atlases that give students pictorial reference points. Materials from travel agencies provide current information and photographs.
10. Relevant newspaper articles related to the country, time period, or sub-topics being explored (e.g., "civil wars in other regions of the world").
11. Technology such as computer software and laser discs that add another dimension to the subject being studied.
12. Live speakers and/or taped television interviews, documentaries, and special programs that give a personal and/or current perspective on the subject.

USING THE *MAKING CONNECTIONS* PROGRAM

Early Grades (K-3)

To help children in the early grades understand themselves and others, teachers may use thematic units such as "Grandparents," "Siblings," "Conflict Resolution," and "Families Around the World." A unit on grandparents, for example, would include learning about

grandparents from all ethnic groups, as well as the effects of aging *(Now One Foot, Now the Other)*, a senior citizen with a new career *(Emma)*, and a grandparent who transmits traditional family values *(Patchwork Quilt)*. These ensure that young children are exposed to a variety of living styles and ethnic groups.

By second grade, children learn about communities around the nation, particularly their own geographic community. Arnold Lobel's *On the Day Peter Stuyvesant Sailed Into Town* highlights the achievements of New York's first colonial governor in a way that children can easily grasp. When combined with *The Jews of New Amsterdam* by Eva Costabel, a more complete Peter Stuyvesant emerges. After reading these books, children will be better equipped to think through problems New York City faces today.

By third grade, students move on to the study of communities around the world and chapter books. A class reading *The Most Beautiful Place in the World* by Ann Cameron sees a Guatemala not shown in textbooks or news articles. Juan, a child being raised by his grandmother asks her, "Is San Pablo the most beautiful place in the world?" She replies, "The most beautiful place in the world is any place.... Any place you can hold your head up. Any place you can be proud of who you are." Surely a class discussion about this idea is a vivid and memorable way for students to explore the similarities and differences among people and cultures.

Grades 4-8

In grades four through eight, students study United States geography and history, as well as the historical roots of contemporary Latin America, Canada, Europe, Asia, and Africa. Novels help students see these events through the eyes of characters living through these historical events.

In fourth grade, students reading *My Brother Sam is Dead* by James Lincoln and Christopher Collier confront the horrors of war and the ultimate truth that in war there are few winners.

Fifth graders reading *Secret of the Andes* by Ann Nolan Clark will arrive at an appreciation for a culture that is quite different from our own. At the same time, they will realize that the courage and

determination of Cusi are human attributes not bound to any one culture or time.

In sixth grade, students learn about the historical backgrounds of people in the Eastern Hemisphere. *Adam of the Road* by Elizabeth Janet Gray, the story of a wandering minstrel who states, "A road is a holy thing," fuels divergent thinking. One student likened this medieval minstrel to a homeless musician on the subway. This student made a connection between past and present, between two very different places and cultures, integrating knowledge of the past with that of the present. This integration demonstrates the higher order thinking skills of analysis, synthesis, and assessment, and not merely the memorization of facts.

In the seventh and eighth grades, students use a social history approach to examine the human experience in the United States from earliest times to the present. When they read the novel *Dragonwings* by Laurence Yep, students learn about the everyday experiences of ordinary Chinese immigrants at the turn of the century through the eyes of a recently arrived Chinese boy. By presenting the struggles of the boy's father in following his dream to build a flying machine, the author breaks down stereotypes and shows Chinese-Americans as human beings upon whom America has had a unique effect.

INTEGRATING RELEVANT CONTENT AREAS

The Arts

The arts are the voice and memory of all societies and cultures. As unique records of diverse cultures, the arts provide students with a means for understanding the values that a culture holds dear.

The Master Puppeteer by Katherine Paterson takes readers into the creative mind of a Japanese puppeteer. There they gain an understanding of the intricacies of both this art and Japanese values.

Grandfather's Journey, a picture book by Japanese-American children's book author Allen Say, brings alive the story of a immigrant's longing for "home." For the main character, home is both the country he left behind to come to live in America and, when he

visits the country of his birth, America itself, his adoptive homeland. The book's simple yet beautiful prose appears against lovely watercolors. Students making their own watercolors of an important place they've missed and writing about it increase their understanding of the book while integrating literature, social studies, art, and writing.

When students read *I, Juan de Pareja*, the story of Velazquez in Spain, they discover how a time and place define the artist. This period was not a time for fanciful paintings. A quote from the novel—"I would rather paint exactly what I see, even if it is ugly, perfectly, than indifferently paint something superficially lovely.... Art is Truth, and to serve Art, I will never decline"—provides much to talk about.

Geography

It is crucial that geography be a strong component of every *Making Connections* unit of study. All students should know not only the basic geography of the countries they are studying, but should understand how a country's geography affects its people's lives. Historical literature often helps students arrive at such an understanding. Studying the geography of countries makes them, and the people from these areas who live in our society, more visible.

Students involved in the study of Japan learn about the physical and emotional challenges of living on an island in the Ring of Fire through Pearl S. Buck's *The Big Wave*. The novel tells the story of Jiya, who loses his family when a fierce *tsunami* (tidal wave) covers his fishing village. Students follow his development from a heartbroken boy to a brave man and fisherman who decides to build a house near the ocean despite the danger. In fact, he is ready for such an occurrence; "If ever the big wave comes back," he says, "I shall be ready. I face it. I am not afraid."

Economics

As local economies become more global, an understanding of economics is crucial. For students studying Europe, for example, understanding the Common Market is essential to a better sense of the gradual economic unification of the continent.

The United States' trade relations with the countries students are studying should also be discussed. The products a country exports and imports can be researched and analyzed to gain an understanding of its agricultural and technological resources and limitations.

Current Events

Third and sixth grade students can write and "publish" their own class newspaper focusing on the current issues and cultural events of the country they are studying. Students can showcase their knowledge of the event, nation, or issue being studied, as well as their skills in word processing and graphic design.

Writing

Writing assignments allow students to synthesize what they have learned. Opportunities for literature extension activities abound. Diaries, journals, and period newspapers connect the skills of research in social studies with writing.

Languages Other than English

An appreciation of the languages spoken in other countries can be nurtured by the classroom teacher in a number of ways. In New York it is not uncommon to have one or more students in a class who speak the language of the country being studied. If possible, have these students talk to the class about the language that they

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speak and/or write. For example, a Chinese student might discuss the impact of a word's pronunciation upon its meaning, or a Japanese student might give a brief lesson in calligraphy. Another way to explore a country's language is to make it the topic of a research paper which students can share with the class.

In addition, books with phrases in languages other than English and their English translations are being published for young children and should be made available to students during the course of study. These books range from the purely instructional, in which words and phrases are introduced in isolation, to a more entertaining variety, such as *Sayonara, Mrs. Kackleman* by Maira Kalman, in which stories integrate words and phrases from other languages with English. Students can also sing several songs from the country being studied.

Music

In addition to singing songs from a given country, students can learn about the different musical instruments played in these songs. A class studying an African country, for example, can learn about the different drums used for songs as well as the materials (e.g., calabashes) used to make these drums.

The study of a specific time period can also be greatly enhanced by introducing the students to its music.

Author Studies

Students can read the work of different authors and compare and contrast their writing styles and points of view. In many cases, picture book authors are also illustrators and a discussion of the pictures and artistic styles enhances study.

Classes can select a particular author for the subject of in-depth study. In addition to reading and discussing an author's work, students can examine the author's life in the context of cultural background.

Here are some recommended authors for author studies, listed by ethnic culture:

African & African-American: Verna Aardema, Ashley Bryan, Jeanette Caines, Donald Crews, Pat Cummings, Muriel Feelings, Eloise Greenfield, Julius Lester, Patricia McKissack, Faith Ringgold

Hispanic/Latino: Alma Flor Ada, George Ancona, Cruz Martel, Carmen Lomas Gaza, Sandra Cisneros, Juan Felipe Herrera, Nicholasa Mohr, Julia Alvarez

Native American: Joseph Bruchac, Paul Goble, Rafe Martin, Elizabeth George Speare, Margaret Craven, George Littlechild, Cheewa James, Te Ata, Nan Benally, Suzan Shown Harjo

Asian-American: Bette Bao Lord, Paul Yee, Lawrence Yep, Ed Young, Jade Snow Wong, Allen Say, Yoshiko Uchida, Taro Yashima, Jeanne Wakatsuki

European American: Patricia Polacco, Isaac B. Singer, Chaim Potok, Eva Costabel, Sholom Aleichem, Anne Frank, Johanna Reiss, Tomie Di Paola, Russell Freeman, Laura Ingalls Wilder, Patricia MacLachan, E.B. White, Pearl S. Buck

Social Action

An important goal of *Making Connections* is to transform students into informed and involved citizens who take responsibility for improving their communities, their nation, and their world.

Literature often illustrates the role society plays in the lives of individuals in ways that children cannot forget. *Paul and Sebastian* by Rene Escudie and Ulises Wensell (Kane/Miller) forces students to reflect on prejudice learned in the home and community. Students following the main characters' struggle with apartheid in *Journey to Jo'Burg: A South African Story*, by Beverly Naidoo (Harper Trophy) witness, perhaps for the first time, the impact of a country's government on the lives of individuals. *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes* by Eleanor Coerr (Dell/Yearling) encourages us to think about the effects of nuclear war and rethink the concept of enemies as people on the other side of a war.

Literature has the potential for awakening in children the desire to change the human condition. Writing letters to pen-pals or newspapers, working with the homeless, and circulating petitions on current topics help turn the study of abstract issues into action.

THE STAGES OF THE RESEARCH PROCESS

A rich historical novel will raise questions for children that can be answered through their own research on the topic.

1. **Find:** The first step in a research project is to find the appropriate books on the assigned topic. A variety of materials other than texts and encyclopedias should be used, including books, periodicals, videos, etc., related in some way to the topic. Pictures can entice younger children into a book. Silver-Burdett Press (People & Places), Chelsea House, Steck-Vaughn, Usborne, Facts on File, and MacNally and Nystrom are examples of publishers with good research books to assist in gathering information.

2. **Learn:** In the next step the children become engaged in the process of learning. The children should go through the sources, look at and talk about some of the pictures in the book. Next, they should read one or two of the books, then close the book, talk about what they read, and write notes on what they have read and talked about. When doing research at home, children can also talk with parents about what they have read. Such conversations, especially when combined with writing and listening, increase the retention of new information.

3. **Write and Revise:** After they have talked about what they read and have taken notes, the children are now ready to write drafts of approximately 1-1/2 pages about what most interests them. After drafting a piece, it is time to revise it, focusing on the most important information.

4. **Share:** Children can give oral presentations on the information they have learned. As part of the preparation for this presentation, speakers should prepare a quiz for the children. This quiz will focus the speaker and the audience.

5. **Assess:** Children can prepare a test at the end of the unit for the other children in the class. Working in groups, they can make up specific simple, factual, and verifiable questions, including "Why" or "How" questions. The teacher then places the questions on the board. Students can also prepare a test for parents; this can help solidify their own learning.

6. **Continue to Read:** At the end of the unit, children can read a novel that brings together the information they have researched, extending their research projects and making information more tangible.

LEVEL OF BLOOM'S TAXONOMY	TEACHERS CAN ASK STUDENTS TO:	STUDENTS CAN MAKE USE OF AND/OR PRODUCE:
KNOWLEDGE	define, describe, memorize, label, recognize, locate, name, recite, draw, state, write, identify	events, people, recordings, radio, newspapers, films, magazine articles, a play, television shows, text readings, a dictionary, filmstrip, a definition
COMPREHENSION	change, covert, transform, rewrite, give examples, match, express, illustrate, paraphrase, restate, explain, extend, defend, distinguish, summarize, outline	a story, speech, paragraph, skit, cartoon, poster, collage, tape recording, diagram, conclusion, graph, an outline, analogy
APPLICATION	apply, change, choose, solve, classify, interpret, draw, model, show, use, modify, put together, sketch, produce, paint, report, dramatize, collect, prepare, discover	a diagram, sculpture, puzzle, photograph, illustration, map, list, drama, painting, solution, forecast, question, filmstrip, cartoon, mobile
ANALYSIS	analyze, classify, examine, compare, survey, distinguish, research, investigate, categorize, infer, select, subdivide, differentiate, construct, separate, take apart, point out	a questionnaire, poster, report, survey, model, graph, conclusion, parts of propaganda, a syllogism or argument broken down
SYNTHESIS	combine, plan, imagine, role play, invent, compose, revise, design, hypothesize, formulate, add to, construct, create, develop, produce, organize, speculate	a hypothesis or question, rebus story, principles or standards, invention, song, report, cartoon, play, game, book, poem, article, experiment
ASSESSMENT	appraise, compare, recommend, assess, critique, weigh, solve, criticize, evaluate, support, judge, consider, relate	a conclusion, recommendation, court trial, assessment, standard, an editorial

This chart, adapted from Sharon Pope, *Cooperative Learning in the Social Studies Classroom* (Prentice-Hall; permission pending), contains sources that students can consult in their research, ways they can report the results of their research, and suggestions for questioning students about their research. All of these are shown in relation to the levels of Bloom's Taxonomy.

ASSESSMENT

The final assessment of a research assignment should include teacher and student reflection upon how well the student achieved his or her initial project goals. In addition to assessing individual research projects, teachers and students need to evaluate each unit studied as a whole. Students can keep portfolios of work (essays, maps, projects) and create a self-assessment sheet. Students may be asked to fill out an assessment sheet (e.g., "What do you know about x?") at both the beginning and the end of a unit. They can use these assessments to reflect further upon what they have learned and to write about it.

What role do tests have in the assessment process? Teachers have always assessed student progress by using standardized tests and teacher-made tests. In order to encourage creativity in curriculum development and instructional methods there must also be creativity in assessment tools. Students can be taught how to participate in the test-writing process. Try the following procedure for teaching students the rudiments of testing:

Designing a Student-Made Test

1. Elicit from children the types of questions they associate with test taking. Make a class list:
   a. multiple choice
   b. chronology
   c. true/false
   d. fill-in
   e. list
   f. definitions
   g. matching
   h. questions (who, what, how, why)
   i. essay
   j. pictorial (diagrams, maps, cartoons)
   k. summary
2. Explain that each type of question suits a different assessment. Discuss possible examples for each type of question using the students' experiences as examples.
3. Explain that tests should have a variety of questions to allow for a variety of learning styles and teaching personalities. When the types of questions are varied, all children have a greater opportunity to be successful.
4. Have each student compose one question. In committees, children can compose essay questions requiring divergent, critical thinking.

MAKING CONNECTIONS USING *FRIEDRICH*

The historical novel *Friedrich*, by Hans Peter Richter, is the compelling story of a Jewish boy in Hitler's Germany. Grade 6 teachers can use this novel to introduce students to the Nazi era and the Holocaust. Moreover, Friedrich offers students the opportunity to discuss issues such as stereotyping, racism, anti-Semitism, and individual and collective responsibility.

Listed below are sample questions that can be used to generate discussion of the novel.

Sample Questions for Discussion

- Why do you think Richter never identified Friedrich's friend and family by name?
- Do you think that the author condoned the Nazi's actions and beliefs?
- Could this book have been an autobiography? Why or why not?
- Do you think it was fair that Friedrich died?

Suggestions for integrating study of the novel with relevant content areas are listed by subject area:

Social Studies

- Look at a map and locate the various countries, cities, and other places mentioned in the novel, e.g., Germany, Poland, the Black Forest, Auschwitz. (Geography)
- Identify the countries that border Germany. (Geography)
- Explore the customs and traditions in Germany during the 1930s. (Culture)
- Research and report on how Adolph Hitler and the Nazis came to power in Germany. (History, Politics, Economics)
- Create a Holocaust timeline of events. (History)
- Discuss the re-unification of Germany. (Politics, Economics, Current Events)
- Discuss the resurgence of anti-Semitism in Eastern Europe. (Culture, Current Events)

Writing

- Write an essay about what you think may have happened differently had Herr Schneider taken his neighbor's advice and moved before the pogroms.
- Pretend you are Friedrich's friend:
  - — Write an entry in your diary explaining your reasons for participating in the pogroms.
  - — Write Friedrich a letter while you are sitting in the shelter unaware of his whereabouts and safety.

Science

- Discuss the climate in Germany and compare it with the climate here. What causes differences in climate?
- How does heat sterilize medical instruments?

Math

- Determine the value of the dollar in Deutschemarks and convert various United States dollar prices to marks.
- Look at a map and determine the distance between Germany and Israel.

Music

- Listen to some of the music popular during this time in the United States and Germany.
- Listen to some of the Yiddish songs popular among Jews at this time.

Art

- Look at German and United States artwork from the World War II era.
- Look at the flags of the major powers at this time.

Architecture

- Draw a picture of Friedrich's house.
- Discuss the structure and construction of an air-raid shelter.

Follow-Up Activities

- Have a member of the Holocaust Survivors Memorial Foundation speak to the class.
- Visit the Jewish Museum.
- Have students write newspaper articles describing one of the events mentioned in *Friedrich*.

Social Action

- Arrange for the students to become "pen-pals" with students who faced persecution in their counties of birth.
- Write a letter to a local elected representative about the problem of racial, ethnic, or religious prejudice and how we can change it.

Assessment

- Why did Friedrich's friend's father join the National Socialist German Workers Party?
- What was the importance of the speech made by Friedrich's teacher on the day the Jewish students were moved to a separate school?

SOME FINAL NOTES

Multicultural education consists of teaching about people and events cognitively and affectively. It employs the learning processes that adults use in everyday life. It is the acknowledgment that our city and our world are composed of diverse cultures, values, and people each with different points of view that must be respected and understood if we are to go forward as a city and a nation.

It is our hope that administrators and classroom teachers will find this guide to *Making Connections* useful in their own attempts to educate the mind and enrich the spirit.

Recommended Literature for Interdisciplinary Units Arranged By Grade

(BOOKS APPEAR IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY TITLE WITHIN SPECIFIED SECTIONS.)

KINDERGARTEN-FIRST GRADE

For early childhood grades a theme about family units (e.g., "Siblings"; "Grandparents") encourages interdisciplinary studies on subjects closest to children at this age. The titles below address many different types of relationships and family configurations. "Conflict Resolution" is another excellent theme.

PICTURE BOOKS ON SIBLINGS

A Baby Sister for Frances, Russell Hoban (Scholastic). Sibling rivalry before a child is born.

Abby, Jeanette Caines (Harper Trophy). A book about adoption; sister and older brother.

Alexander, Who Used to be Rich Last Sunday, Judith Viorst (Aladdin). Three brothers and how they spend their money. Alexander never seems to have any.

Anna in Charge, Yoriko Tsutsui (Viking Kestrel). Story set in Asian community where a big sister loses her younger sister while responsible for her.

Anna's Special Present, Yoriko Tsutsui (Viking Kestrel). A girl is annoyed with her younger sister, but makes a great sacrifice when her sister is in the hospital after an operation.

The Big Sister, Siv Widerberg (R & S Books). The plagues of having an older sister. Moral about the grass always being greener on the other side.

Brothers and Sisters, Debbie Slier, editor (Checkerboard Press). Photographs make up this simple eight-page booklet about siblings' actions/feelings together.

Everett Anderson's Nine Month Long, Lucille Clifton (Henry Holt). Family relationships while awaiting the birth of a baby.

I Have a Sister, My Sister is Deaf, Jean Whitehouse Peterson (Harper Trophy). This is a story about living with a "special" sibling.

Jamaica Tag-Along, Juanita Havill (Houghton Mifflin). Story of being left out of sibling life. Nice ending.

Jenny's Baby Brother, Peter Smith (Puffin Books). Jenny is fed up with her boring baby brother who eventually becomes interesting.

Little Rabbit's Baby Brother, Lucy Bates (Scholastic). Little Rabbit has a new baby brother and is learning that being a big sister isn't easy.

Mufaro's Beautiful Daughter, John Steptoe (Scholastic). A timeless African story of adolescent rivalry told through a folk tale medium.

The New Baby at Your House, Joanna Cole (William Morrow). Two children in separate households and their feelings after new siblings enter the picture. Photographic essay complements the story.

Nobody Asked Me If I Wanted a Baby Sister, Martha Alexander (Dial). Hate-at-first-sight but love conquers all.

Oh, Brother, Arthur Yorinks & Richard Egielski (Michael di Capua). Sophisticated, humorous tale of twin orphans in New York that enter school of hard knocks. Happy ending.

The Pain and the Great One, Judy Blume (Dell Yearling). Sibling rivalry seen from both sides of the fence. How will they ever find out who is loved more?

Peter's Chair, Ezra Jack Keats (Harper Trophy). A gentle, reassuring sibling rivalry story.

Sheila Rae, the Brave, Kevin Henkes (Greenwillow Books). Sheila tries to be brave for her younger sister but finds the tables turned on her.

Twice Mice, Wendy Smith (Carolrhoda). Frustrations of being an older sibling.

When the New Baby Comes, I'm Moving Out, Martha Alexander (Dial). What happens when possessions are transferred from one sibling to another.

PICTURE BOOKS ON CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Any good multicultural program should explore conflict resolution skills through the use of literature. These books represent various perspectives and provide many opportunities for dialogue.

Albert's Toothache, Barbara Williams (Dutton). Lying and its consequences.

Big Orange Spot, Daniel Pinkwater (Scholastic). Diversity of aesthetic choices.

Doctor De Soto, William Steig (Farrar). Ethical and practical problem solving.

Hector the Bully, Danah Priestly (Lerner Group). Improvement of self-esteem.

Jeremy's Decision, Aidyth Brott (Kane/Miller). Self-esteem and career decisions.

Old Henry, Joan Blos (Mulberry). Neighborhood choices.

Paul and Sebastian, Rene Escudie & Ulises Wensell (Kane/Miller). Why can't two children be friends?

Stop Your Crowing, Kasimir!, Ursel Scheffler (Lerner Group). Differences between city and country life.

Tusk, Tusk, David McKee (Kane/Miller). Differences and their consequences.

SECOND GRADE

The Social Studies Program for Grade 2 focuses on the children's local community, New York City. Picture books are a wonderful source of information. Class novels should focus on New York City with many supplementary materials (e.g., maps, visuals, non-fiction books) available to students.

PICTURE BOOKS

The Adventure of Taxi Dog, Debra and Sal Barracca (Dial). Race up and down the streets of New York with Maxi, the taxi dog.

Cat and the Canary, Michael Foreman (Dial). Soar over the spectacles of Manhattan with two friends and a runaway kite.

Cathedral Mouse, Kay Chora (Dutton). Set in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, Mouse looks for a safe and warm place to live.

Eloise, Kay Thompson (Simon & Schuster). This impetuous, mischievous (and spoiled) six-year-old girl lives with her beloved nanny at the Plaza Hotel.

The House of East 88th Street, Bernard Waber (Houghton). Talented, charming Lyle finds a new home and family in a brownstone on East 88th Street.

The Inside-Outside Book of New York City, Roxie Munro (Dutton). Ms. Munro takes us on a whirlwind tour of all the high points of the city, from the Chrysler Building to the Museum of Natural History to Radio City Music Hall.

The Little Red Lighthouse and the Great Gray Bridge, Hildegarde and Lyn Ward (Harcourt Brace). This beloved children's classic tells the story of the brave and faithful lighthouse under the George Washington Bridge.

My New York, Kathy Jakobsen (Little, Brown). I'll take Manhattan! Beautifully detailed, vibrant artwork whisks you from sight to sight.

Tar Beach, Faith Ringgold (Crown). In a magical story, based on the quilts of the same name, young Cassie is lifted by the stars to float all over the city.

Taxi—A Book of City Words, Betsy Maestro (Houghton Mifflin). Accompany a taxi as it travels through a busy workday in and around the city.

We're Back, Hudson Talbot (Crown). A group of old dinosaurs are sent to New York in the 20th century. Their destination is none other than the Museum of Natural History.

MORE PICTURE BOOKS ABOUT NEW YORK

Abuela, Arthur Dorros (Dutton).

Amy Elizabeth Loves Bloomingdale's, E.L. Konigsburg (Atheneum).

Angel for Solomon Singer, Cynthia Rylant (Orchard).

Brooklyn Dodger Days, Richard Rosenblum (Atheneum).

The Cabbie Who Stole New York City, Charles Micucci (Bantam).

Hilary and the Lions, Frank Desaix (Farrar Straus & Giroux).

How Pizza Came to Queens, Dayal Khalsa (Polter).

I Go With My Family to Grandma's House, Riki Levinson (Dutton).

Night on Neighborhood Street, Eloise Greenfield (Dial).

No Moon, No Milk!, Chris Babcock (Crown).

Pet of the Met, Don Freeman (Viking).

NOVELS

(Note: These chapter books would be used best as read-alouds due to the advanced reading levels they require for independent reading.)

The Cricket in Times Square, George Selden (Farrar). This classic story of New York City tells of the adventures of Chester Cricket and his friends Tucker Mouse and Harry the Cat.

From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler, E.J. Konigsburg (Atheneum). Claudia and her younger brother run away from home and temporarily take up residence in the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Harriet the Spy, Louise Fitzhugh (HarperCollins). Set in the New York neighborhood of Yorkville.

The Planet of Junior Brown, Virginia Hamilton (Macmillan). At 14, Junior is vastly overweight, a musical prodigy, and completely insecure.

Slake's Limbo, Felice Homan (Simon & Schuster). Down among the subway rails, in the crevices below the earth's surface, young Slake, completely alone and on his own, attempts to survive.

NONFICTION

The Brooklyn Bridge: They Said It Couldn't Be Built, Judith St. George (Putnam).

Ellis Island: New Hope in A New Land, William Jay Jacobs (Simon & Schuster).

Hotel Boy, Curtis Kaufman (Simon & Schuster).

Jews of New Amsterdam, Eva Costabel (Atheneum).

Kidding Around New York City: A Young Person's Guide, Sarah Lovett (John Muir).

Over Here It's Different: Carolina's Story, Mildred Leinweber Dawson (Macmillan).

THIRD GRADE

The third grade selections emphasize life in communities around the world. Each novel depicts life as seen through the eyes of a child from that culture. Relevant picture books (identified as PB) about the culture being studied may be tied in.

The grade year may begin by studying a part of the United States before moving on to other countries and regions of the world.

"Cinderella Folk Tales from Around the World" is an excellent third grade unit.

The following titles are listed by country or region, with the grade level readability identified in parentheses after the synopsis.

COUNTRIES AND REGIONS OF THE WORLD

ANTARCTICA

Mr. Popper's Penguins, Richard and Florence Atwater (Little, Brown). An Antarctic penguin is sent to a quiet house painter who longs for adventure. (4/5)
PB: **Desert of Ice: Life and Works in Antarctica**, W. John Hackwell (Simon & Schuster).

CHINA

Homesick: My Own Story, Jean Fritz (Dell Yearling). Fritz tells about her childhood in China in the 1920s and her return to the United States. (4/5)
PB: **I Hate English**, Ellen Levine (Scholastic)

In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson, Bette Bao Lord (Harper Trophy). A Chinese immigrant in Brooklyn and her identification with Jackie Robinson. Discussions of Chinese customs. (3)
PB: **The Moon Lady**, Amy Tan (Simon & Schuster)

Little Pear, Eleanor Lattimore (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich). Story of a small boy in China in the early 1900s. (2/3)
PB: **Lion Dancer**, Kate Waters (Scholastic).

FRANCE

Family Under the Bridge, Natalie Savage Carlson (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich). A homeless family living on the streets of Paris. (3)
PB: **The Inside-Outside Book of Paris**, Roxie Munro (Dutton).

Linnea in Monet's Garden, Christina Bjork (Farrar Straus & Giroux). Follow Linnea as she visits Claude Monet's famous garden and other French places. (3)

GUATEMALA

The Most Beautiful Place in the World, Ann Cameron (Knopf). A touching story about abandonment and small-town life in San Pablo. (2/3)
PB: **Abuela**, Arthur Dorros (Dutton).

JAPAN

The Big Wave, Pearl S. Buck (Harper Trophy). The effects of a *tsunami* (tidal wave) on a small village. (3)
PB: **Grandfather's Journey**, Allen Say (Houghton).

Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes, Eleanor Coerr (Dell Yearling). About the effects of radiation on a young girl living in post-war Japan. (3)
PB: **The Faithful Elephants: A True Story of Animals, People and War**, Yukio Tsuchiya (Houghton).

MEXICO

...And Now Miguel, Joseph Krumgold (Crowell). Shepherding in the small village of Los Cordovas. A Newbery-Award-winning novel. (4/5)
PB: **Nine Days to Christmas: A Story of Mexico**, Marie Hall (Viking)

Hill of Fire, Thomas P. Lewis (Harper Trophy). Volcano erupts in Mexico. (2/3)
PB: **Family Pictures**, Carmen Lomas Garza (Children's Books).

JEWISH LIFE IN POLAND

A Gift for Mama, Esther Hautzig (Puffin). The virtues of handmade vs. store-bought presents. Jewish family life. (2/3)

Selected parts of **Holiday Tales of Sholom Aleichem** (Scribners), which contains stories of Chanukah, Passover, and other Jewish holidays, may be read aloud. (3)
PB: **Mrs. Katz and Tush**, Patricia Polacco (Philomel).

PUERTO RICO

Felita, Nicholas Mohr (Dial). Life of a Puerto Rican girl in New York City as she moves from one neighborhood to another. Story of prejudice and family ties. (2/3)
PB: **Yagua Days**, Cruz Martel (Dial).

RUSSIA

Molly's Pilgrim, Barbara Cohen (Lothrop, Lee & Shepard). Molly, a Russian immigrant, has trouble making friends in America. (2/3)
PB: **The Keeping Quilt**, Patricia Polacco (Simon & Schuster).

SOUTH AFRICA

Journey to Jo'Burg: A South African Story, Beverly Naidoo (Harper Trophy). Story of 13-year-old Naledi and her family dealing with the issue of apartheid. The sequel, **Chain of Fire** (HarperCollins), follows Naledi in her 15th year. (3)
PB: **At the Crossroads**, Rachel Isadora (Greenwillow).

UNITED STATES

Charlotte's Web, E.B. White (Harper). Realities of farm life with lovable animals. (3)
PB: **The Story of a Farm**, John S. Goodall (Atheneum).

Sarah, Plain and Tall, Patricia MacLachlan (Harper Trophy). Prairie life during the 1800s. Widower and children acquire a mail-order bride/stepmother. (3)
PB: **Josefina and the Story Quilt**, Eleanor Coerr (HarperCollins)

VIETNAM

The Land I Lost: Adventures of a Boy in Vietnam, Huyn Quang Nhuong (Harper Trophy). Survival story of life among jungle animals. Graphic. (4/5)
PB: **The Lotus Seed**, Sherry Garland (Harcourt Brace).

CINDERELLA FOLK TALES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

AFRICA

Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters, John Steptoe (Harper). The kind and gentle Nyasha and her mean-spirited sister journey to the village of a king who is choosing a wife. Nyasha passes the king's three tests. Steptoe's illustrations bring the lush flora and fauna of Zimbabwe alive. (3)

CHINA

Yeh-Shen, retold by Ai-Ling Louie; Ed Young, illustrator (Sandcastle) A young Chinese girl overcomes the wickedness of her stepsister and stepmother to become the bride of a prince. (3)

EGYPT

The Egyptian Cinderella, Shirley Climo; Ruth Heller, illustrator (Harper Trophy). Set in Egypt in the sixth century B.C., Rhodopis, a slave girl, eventually comes to be chosen by the Pharaoh to be his queen. (3)

ENGLAND

Moss Gown, William Hooks; Donald Carrick illustrator (Clarion). Candace is banished from her father's plantation after failing to flatter him as much as her two evil sisters. After she meets her Prince Charming her father is able to appreciate her love. (3)

FRANCE

Cinderella, or the Little Glass Slipper, Charles Perrault; Errol Le Cain, illustrator (Puffin). The traditional story in which Cinderella leaves behind a glass slipper in her haste to flee the palace. Compare text and pictures with versions illustrated by Marcia Brown (her book won the 1955 Caldecott), Paul Galdone, or Susan Jeffers. (3)

KOREA

The Korean Cinderella, Shirley Climo (HarperCollins). Pear Blossom, a stepchild, eventually comes to be chosen by the magistrate to be his wife. (Note: The illustrator of this book, Ruth Heller, also illustrated **The Egyptian Cinderella**.) (3)

NATIVE AMERICAN

The Rough-Face Girl, Rafe Martin; David Shannon illustrator (Putnam). In this Algonquin Indian version, the Rough-Face Girl and her two heartless sisters vie for the affections of the Invisible Being. A haunting, powerful tale. (3)

VIETNAM

The Golden Slipper, Darrell Lum; Makiko Nagano, illustrator (Troll). A kind-hearted young woman meets her prince with the help of animals she has befriended. (3)

UNITED STATES HISTORY IN THE UPPER GRADES

The historical literature for the fourth, fifth, and middle school grades focuses on the major events that shaped the country in which we live today. (Grade 4 focuses on the history of the local community and its relationship to national historical events. Grade 5, while emphasizing the contemporary United States, builds on and reinforces historical elements of the United States developed in Grade 4. Grade 7 traces the history of what is now the United States from Pre-Columbian times to 1876. Grade 8 continues that study to the present.) Teachers are encouraged to use several titles at one time to gain several perspectives of a single event.

The following titles are listed in chronological order with the grade level readability specified in parentheses following the synopsis.

PRE-REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD

The Discovery of the Americas, Betsy and Giulio Maestro (Mulberry). Discusses both hypothetical and historical voyages of discovery to America from 20,000 B.C. to English colonization in North America. Wonderful chronological outline in the back of the book. (4/5)

The Double Life of Pocahontas, Jean Fritz (Putnam). Pocahontas, exploited by her people and the white world. (5)

Johnny Tremain, Esther Forbes (Houghton). A silversmith's apprentice lives through Pre-Revolutionary days and early wartime in Boston. (7/8)

On the Day Peter Stuyvesant Sailed Into Town, Arnold Lobel (HarperCollins). New Amsterdam before and after Stuyvesant's reign. (2/3)

The Sign of the Beaver, Elizabeth George Speare (Houghton). Friendship between an Indian and a colonist. Survival skills taught through Native-American traditions. (4/5)

The Witch of Blackbird Pond, Elizabeth George Speare (Houghton). The Puritan ethic, well taught. (7/8)

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD (1750-1800)

Calico Captive, Elizabeth George Speare (Houghton Mifflin). Based on true accounts during the French and Indian War. (4/5)

Fighting Ground, Avi (Beech Tree). The clear message: war is not glorious. (3/4)

My Brother Sam is Dead, James Lincoln & Christopher Collier (Four Winds). An even-handed approach to the conflict between Tories and Patriots. (7/8)

The Secret Soldier: Story of Deborah Sampson, Ann McGovern (Four Winds). A heroine that is easy to read about. (3/4)

Sh! They're Writing the Constitution, Jean Fritz (Putnam). Painless way to learn the American legal system. (3/4)

War Comes to Willy Freeman, James Lincoln & Christopher Collier (Dell). Girl disguised as boy tries to rescue her mother. (4/5)

Who is Carrie? James Lincoln & Christopher Collier (Dell). An African-American girl's perspective on the beginnings of a new nation. (5/6)

The Winter Hero, James Lincoln & Christopher Collier (Scholastic). Shay's Rebellion from a young soldier's perspective. (5/6)

MOVEMENT NORTH AND WEST

A Family Apart, Joan Lowery Nixon (Bantam). Book I of a series begins in New York City in 1856 when children are sent to St. Louis for a better life. (4/5)

The Cabin Faced West, Jean Fritz (Coward). A young girl whose family has moved west dreams of going back home until she begins to see the frontier with new eyes. (4)

Cassie's Journey: Going West in the 1860s, Brett Harvey (Holiday House). A young girl describes her experiences on a wagon train. (4)

Kate's House, Mary Francis Shura (Scholastic). Traveling west to Oregon in 1943 in a covered wagon. (4)

Little House on the Prairie, Laura Ingalls Wilder (HarperCollins). The Ingalls family moves to Kansas. The first of the "Little House" books. (4)

Long Ago in Oregon, Claudia Lewis (HarperCollins). Western life told in verse form. (4)

On the Way Home, Laura Ingalls Wilder (HarperCollins). Diary of a trip from South Dakota to Mansfield, Missouri, in 1894. By the author of the "Little House" books. (4)

On to Oregon! Honore Morrow (Morrow). Children travel alone to Oregon by covered wagon, horse, and foot in 1844. (4)

Prairie Songs, Pam Conrad (HarperCollins). Problems of adapting to prairie life. (4)

Sarah, Plain and Tall, Patricia MacLachlan (HarperCollins). Life in the frontier for a city-bred stepmother. (3/4)

Sing Down the Moon, Scott O'Dell (Houghton). Trail of Tears (1838) told with impact. (4/5)

Wagon Wheels, Barbara Brenner (HarperCollins). An easy-to-read story about a real pioneer family. (2/3)

SLAVERY & THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

Across Five Aprils, Irene Hunt (Silver Press). Well written story of a family divided physically and by opinion during the Civil War. (7/8)

Brady, Jean Fritz (Puffin). Brady uncovers a trail that leads to the Underground Railroad station. (4/5)

Charley Skedaddle, Patricia Beatty (Morrow). Story from Union Army point of view. (4/5)

Escape to Freedom, Ossie Davis (Puffin). The life and times of Frederick Douglass are vividly portrayed in a play your class can perform. (4/5)

Follow the Drinking Gourd, Jeannette Winter (Knopf). The story of Peg Leg Joe, who taught slaves the song to lead them to the Underground Railroad and freedom. (3/4)

Freedom Train: The Story of Harriet Tubman, D. Sterling (Scholastic). Story of underground railroad and the Moses of her people. (4/5)

Lincoln: A Photobiography, Russell Freedman (Clarion). A Newbery-Award-winning documentation of Abraham Lincoln's life. (PB)

Rifles for Watie, Harold Keith (HarperCollins). Civil War seen from both the North's and South's point of view. (5/6)

Shades of Gray, Carolyn Reeder (Macmillan). A boy encounters pacifism during the Civil War. (5/6)

The Slave Dancer, Paula Fox (Bradbury). A 13-year-old European-American boy is kidnapped and forced to play the fife aboard a slave ship. (5/6)

IMMIGRATION

Dragonwings, Lawrence Yep (HarperCollins). Chinese immigration in 1900s California. (7/8)

In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson, Bette Bao Lord (HarperCollins). Chinese immigration to Brooklyn during Dodgers' glory days. (3/4)

Jar of Dreams, Yoshiko Uchida (Atheneum). Prejudice in depression-torn California. (4/5)

Kim/Kimi, Hadley Irwin (Simon & Schuster). Kim is both Irish-American and Japanese-American. To answer some questions about herself, she travels from Iowa to California's Japanese-American community where her father came from. (4/5)

Letters from Rifka, Karen Hesse (Holt). In letters to her cousin, a young Jewish girl chronicles her family's flight from Russia to America in 1919. (5/6)

A Long Way From Home, M.C. Wartski (NAL-Dutton). Discrimination toward Vietnamese refugees in the United States. (5)

Mama's Bank Account, Kathryn Forbes (Harcourt Brace). Turn-of-the-century San Francisco, where a loving Norwegian-American family faces various conflicts and challenges. (7/8)

EARLY LABOR CONDITIONS AND WORLD WAR I

After the Dancing Days, M. Rostkowski (HarperCollins). World War I and its effect on a family. (5/6)

The Jungle, Upton Sinclair (Airmont). Exposed the disgusting conditions in the meat-packing industry in Chicago, which led to federal meat inspection and the passage of the Pure Food and Drug Act. (7/8)

Lyddie, Katherine Paterson (Lodestar). Thirteen-year-old girl works extremely hard in a textile mill in Lowell, Massachusetts, to keep her family together. (5/6)

No Hero for the Kaiser, Rudolf Frank (Lothrop, Lee & Shepard). A strong antiwar theme is developed through the author's depiction of World War I. (5/6)

THE GREAT DEPRESSION

Blue Willow, Doris Gates (Viking). Easy-to-follow book on the Depression. (4)

Borrowed Children, George Ella Lyon (F. Watts). Set in Kentucky during the Depression. (4)

Dotty's Suitcase, Constance C. Greene (Viking). Set during the Depression, a 12-year-old girl dreams of traveling to far-off places. (4)

Ida Early Comes Over the Mountain, Robert Burch (Avon). Depression in rural Georgia. (4)

Ivy Larkin, Mary Stolz (Harcourt Brace). The Depression through the eyes of one family. (4/5)

Let the Circle Be Unbroken, Mildred Taylor (Dial). The Great Depression in the South. The sequel to **Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry** (Puffin). (5/6)

A Matter of Pride, Emily Crofford (Lerner Group). A ten-year-old girl tells about the Depression on an Arkansas cotton farm. (4/5)

No Promises in the Wind, Irene Hunt (Modern Curriculum Press). The Depression as it affects one family. (7/8)

Queenie Peavy, Robert Burch (Viking). Queenie's father is in jail and she must survive the Depression on her own. (4/5)

A Taste of Daylight, Crystal Thrasher (Atheneum). Girl and family move from the country to the city during the Depression. (4/5)

WORLD WAR II, THE HOLOCAUST, & THE INTERNMENT OF JAPANESE AMERICANS

Alan and Naomi, Myron Levoy (Jewish Publication Society). Set in Brooklyn, the story of a Jewish boy from Brooklyn who befriends a Jewish girl from France who still has nightmares about the Nazis. (4/5)

Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl. (Doubleday). Unforgettable diary of a Jewish girl whose family must hide from the Nazis. (7/8)

Annie's Promise, Sonia Levitan (Atheneum). A Jewish family escapes Nazi Germany. (5/6)

The Devil's Arithmetic, Jane Yolen (Viking). A time-warp experience helps a girl understand the Holocaust. (4/5)

Farewell to Manzanar, Jeanne Wakatsuki & James D. Houston (Bantam). The story, seen through the eyes of a child, of a Japanese-American family's four years at the Manzanar internment camp during World War II. (5/6)

Friedrich, Hans Peter Richter (Peter Smith). Compelling story of a Jewish boy in Hitler's Germany. (4/5)

The Island on Bird Street, Uri Orlev; Hillel Harkin, translator (Houghton Mifflin). A 12-year-old boy survives in the Warsaw ghetto. (4/5)

Journey to America, Sonia Levitin (Simon & Schuster). A Jewish family escapes from Nazi Germany. **Silver Days** (Atheneum) is the sequel. (4/5)

Journey to Topaz, Yoshiko Uchida (Great Art Books). A Japanese-American family is held in an internment camp in Utah during World War II. The sequel, **Journey Home** (Atheneum), tells of the family's return to California and their attempts to readjust. (4/5)

Number the Stars, Lois Lowry (Houghton). In Copenhagen, the Danes try to save their Jewish citizens in 1943. (4/5)

Rain of Fire, Marian Bauer (Clarion). A 12-year-old boy discovers the complex and cruel nature of war. (3/4)

Snow Treasures, Marie McSwigan (Scholastic). Retelling of a real adventure against the Nazis in World War II Norway. (4/5)

Touchwood, Renee Roth Hand (Four Winds). Set in occupied France. (5/6)

Upon the Head of a Goat: A Childhood in Hungary 1939-1944, Aranka Siegel (Puffin).
A nine-year-old experiences the Holocaust. (5/6)

The Upstairs Room, Johanna Reiss (HarperCollins). True story of two Jewish sisters' experiences hiding from the Nazis. (5/6)

When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit, Judith Kerr (Dell). Family escapes from Hitler's Germany. (5/6)

FIFTH GRADE

In addition to reviewing the historical roots of people in the United States, this grade studies the histories of Latin America, the Caribbean, and Canada. Grade level readability is given in parentheses after the synopsis.

The Black Pearl, Scott O'Dell (Dell). A tale of religion and superstition set in Mexico. (5)

Call It Courage, Armstrong Perry (MacMillan). Mafatu has been terrified of the ocean but with his small dog for company, he sails out alone—to die or prove his courage. (5)

Caribbean Canvas, Frane Lessac (Lippincott). Each page illustrates a Caribbean proverb or poem. Wonderful combination. (PB)

The Cay, Theodore Taylor (Avon). A novel set in the Caribbean during World War II. Timothy and Philip are stranded on a deserted island and have to take turns depending on each other. A story of survival, prejudice, generation gaps, and, ultimately, friendship. (4/5)

Courage at Indian Deep, Jane Resh Thomas (Clarion). Set in and around the north shore of Lake Superior, the novel follows a boy's adjustment to rural life vs. city life. This is a well written, easy-to-read book that will help students overcome stereotyping. (5/6)

Dogsong, Gary Paulsen (Penguin). A novel of introspection about a rigorous journey for a boy and his team of dogs. Their spirits soar as one to survive this unforgettable run toward self-discovery. (5/6)

The Iceberg Hermit, Arthur Roth (Scholastic). This exciting tale of survival in the Arctic can supplement a unit on Canada. As Allan learns to cope alone, he matures. Students will learn a great deal from this book, and probably be surprised by the ending. (5/6)

I Heard the Owl Call My Name, Margaret Craven (Dell). Story of one man's discovery of the ultimate truths of live, love, courage, and dignity among native people of the Northwest. (5/6)

Hatchet, Gary Paulsen (Bradbury Press). After a plane crash, 13-year-old Brian spends 54 days in the Canadian wilderness. Brian survives, initially only with the aid of a hatchet given to him by his mother. (5/6)

Island of the Blue Dolphins, Scott O'Dell (Houghton Mifflin). Young Indian girl is stranded on a desert island for 18 years. (5/6)

Julie of the Wolves, Jean Craighead George (Harper & Row). Julie runs away from her Eskimo heritage and finds she must depend on a pack of wild wolves for survival when she gets lost on the frozen tundra of Alaska. (5/6)

My Little Island, Franc Lessac (Harper Trophy). Outstanding picture book that depicts life in the Caribbean. (PB)

Secret of the Andes, Ann Nolan Clark (Puffin). Set in Peru, the novel provides unique insight into life in the upper regions of Peru. The writing is lyrical. (4/5)

Very Last First Time, Jan Andrew (Atheneum). A young girl, living in an Inuit village in Canada, searches for mussels along the bottom of the sea bed. (4/5)

SIXTH GRADE

The sixth grade social studies curriculum focuses on Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia—past and present. Since most of the following novels are set in the past, newspapers can be used to discuss the current events of the region being studied. Grade level readability is given in parentheses after the synopsis.

WESTERN EUROPE

Banner in the Sky, James R. Ullman (Archway). Rudi chooses to save an enemy's life rather than fulfill his dream of being the first to climb the citadel. (5/6)

I, Juan de Fareja, Elizabeth Borton de Trevino (Farrar, Straus & Giroux). The story is based on the true characters of the 17th-century Spanish painter Velasquez and his African slave, Juan de Fareja. (5/6)

Locadio's Apprentice, Chelsea Quinn Yarbro (Harper & Row). Set in Pompeii, 14-year-old Enecus struggles to become a doctor's apprentice. He is inevitably faced with a catastrophe that tests his skills. (6/7)

A Proud Taste for Scarlet and Miniver, Elaine Konigsburg (Dell). Lively and witty Eleanor of Aquitaine is credited with helping to establish the concept of "trial by jury" and English common laws, and encouraging poets and musicians to romanticize the legend of King Arthur. This book combines biography, historical fiction, and fantasy. (6/7)

Shadow of a Bull, Maia Wojciechowska (MacMillan). Twelve-year-old Manolo must face his first bullfight because his father was Spain's most famous torero. (4/5)

A String in the Harp, Nancy Bond (Atheneum). Peter discovers an ancient harp-tuning key that transports him back to sixth-century Wales. (5/6)

EASTERN EUROPE

Children of the Fox, Jill Paton Walsh (Farrar, Straus & Giroux). Three independent stories give intriguing glimpses of three different lifestyles in ancient Greece. Each story is a first-person account given by a young fictional narrator who has a part in actual events. (5/6)

A Day of Pleasure, Isaac Bashevis Singer (Farrar, Straus & Giroux). Beautiful descriptive story of a marvelous storyteller growing up in Poland. (7/8)

The Endless Steppe, Esther Hautzig (Harper & Row). Based on the author's childhood, it tells how in 1941, young Esther and her family were forced by the invading Russians to leave their beautiful and cultured home in Vilna, Poland. (5/6)

Lily and the Lost Boy, Paula Fox (Orchard Books). Haunting tale of American children living on the mysterious Greek island of Thasos. Beautifully written and filled with details of Greek daily life and island history. (4/5)

The Night Journey, Kathryn Lasky (Warne). Rachel listens to her great grandmother's tale of her family's escape from Russia. (5/6)

Trumpeter of Krakow, Eric P. Kelly (Macmillan). The exciting tale of a courageous boy and a precious jewel is set in Krakow, Poland's most beautiful city in the 15th century. (5/6)

The White Stag, Kate Seredy (Viking). The story of Attila and the migration of the Huns and Magyars from Asia to Europe. (5/6)

Zlateh the Goat and Other Stories, Isaac Bashevis Singer (Harper & Row). Derived from the Eastern European Jewish oral tradition, here are seven folk tales that blend humor, fantasy, and deviltry. (4/5)

AFRICA

The Golden Goblet, Eloise Jarvis McGraw (Coward-McCann). When Ranofer found the golden goblet, he knew it must have been stolen from one of the great tombs in the City of the Dead. Ranofer also knew that Gebu, his greedy half-brother, was the thief. (5/6)

Mara, Daughter of the Nile, Eloise Jarvis McGraw (Penguin). Rich story of intrigue at the Egyptian Court. Details of daily Egyptian life and customs during the time of Nefertiti. (6/7)

The Middle of Somewhere: A South Africa Story, Sheila Gordon (Orchard). This story contrasts the simple desires of young children with the complex and ugly practices of apartheid practiced by the South African government. (5/6)

The Return, Sonia Levitin (Atheneum). A novel about Falasha, the Ethiopian Jews, and "Operation Moses," the airlift that took a number of them to Israel via the Sudan. (6/7)

Sword of Egypt, Bert Williams (Scholastic). The action-packed story of a young Egyptian boy whose belief in his father leads him through unbelievable perils in the Pharaoh's Royal Palace in Thebes. (5/6)

Waiting for the Rain, Sheila Gordon (Orchard). Set in South Africa in the mid-1980s, this novel tells the story of apartheid's effect on an interracial friendship. (5/6)

ASIA

A Bedouin Boyhood, Isaak Digs (London, Allen & Unwin). A memoir of a young Jordanian growing up in a Bedouin household. Captivating reading as it details the struggles and pleasures of the nomadic life. (6/7)

Remembrance of the Sun, Kate Gilmore (Houghton Mifflin). Jill, a 16-year-old American living in Iran with her family, falls in love with an Iranian boy. (7/8)

Shabanu: Daughter of the Wind, Suzanne Fisher Staples (Knopf). A Pakistani girl is torn between family traditions and her own desires. (7/8)

The Cat Who Went to Heaven, Elizabeth Coatsworth (MacMillan). Timeless novel about a Japanese artist, a little cat, and a miracle. A Newbery Medal winner. (5/6)

Homesick: My Own Story, Jean Fritz (Dell). True story of a girl growing up in pre-revolutionary China. Customs and traditions of a China run by emperors. (5/6)

The House of Sixty Fathers, Meindert DeJong (Harper). Tien Pao is all alone in enemy (Japanese) territory. Newbery Honor book. (5/6)

Many Lands, Many Stories: Asian Folk Tales for Children, David Conger (Tuttle). These 15 folk tales from China, Japan, India, Korea, and Thailand will be enjoyed by all who read them. (4/5)

The Master Puppeteer, Katherine Paterson (Crowell). Set in 18th century Osaka, Japan, during a period of famine. Jiro, the son of a starving puppet maker, runs away from home and becomes an apprentice in the theater. (5/6)

The Peacock Spring, Rumer Godden (Viking). Una and her younger sister, Hal, are summoned to New Delhi by their diplomat father. Una meets and falls in love with a gifted young poet masquerading as a gardener, whose brilliant poetry helps Una to discover the real India. (7/8)

So Far from the Bamboo Grove, Yoko Kawashima Watkins (Lothrop, Lee & Shepard). Stationed in North Korea during World War II, Yoko and her family lead a peaceful life until the North Korean Communist army begins to advance. Suddenly, they must flee for their lives, running on foot at night, jamming into railroad cars, always in fear, always lacking food and shelter. (5/6)

AUSTRALIA

The Clinker, Roger Vaughan Carr (Houghton Mifflin). Thirteen-year-old Rust, spending the summer with his grandparents in Australia, experiences life that his father and grandfather had known as boys. (5/6)

Possum Magic, Mem Fox (Abingdon Press). Two possums, one of them made invisible by the other's magic, travel to various cities in Australia trying to find the magic food that will make him visible again. (3/4)

Shadow Shark, Colin Thiele (Harper & Row). Two cousins join a group of fishermen in pursuit of a massive shark off the coast of southern Australia. (4/5)

Where the Forest Meets the Sea, Jeannie Baker (Greenwillow). On a camping trip in an Australian rain forest with his father, a young boy thinks about the history of the plant and animal life around him and wonders about their future. (PB)

ANCIENT TIMES THROUGH THE MIDDLE AGES

Adam of the Road, Elizabeth J. Gray (Viking Penguin). A young minstrel has many adventures in the England of 1294. Newbery Medal winner. Wonderful companion to **The Door in the Wall**. (5/6)

The Bronze Bow, Elizabeth George Speare (Houghton Mifflin). Set in Israel during Roman rule, a boy's hatred of the Romans is affected after he meets Jesus. Excellent descriptive language. Newbery Medal winner. (5/6)

The Door in the Wall, Marguerite De Angeli (Scholastic). Ten-year-old Robin overcomes a mysterious ailment during the time of England's Edward III. Depicts life in a monastery and small village during the Middle Ages. Newbery Medal winner. (5/6)

MULTICULTURAL BOOKS FOR ALL AGES

The following books may be used to create a dialogue around multicultural issues and personal relationships. These books are recommended for reading aloud to the entire school. These books would be excellent additions to every classroom and school library.

Here Comes the Cat!, Vladimir Vagin & Frank Asch (Scholastic). An American illustrator (Asch) and a Russian author (Vagin) teamed up to destroy the stereotype of "born enemies." A simple book with a major message.

The Art Lesson, Tomi Di Paola (Putnam). This book is about individuality and the need to help each child express their ideas in his or her own way.

Balancing Girl, Bernice Robe (E.P. Dalton). A book that demonstrates that handicapped children are normal in every way. This book depicts a typical kindergartner's experience as seen through the eyes of a wheelchair-bound child.

The Big Orange Splot, Daniel Manus Pinkwater (Scholastic). A wonderful book about acknowledging and accepting individual differences.

Brown Angels, Walter Dean Myers (HarperCollins). A wonderful combination of antique photographs and poetry.

Chrysanthemum, Kevin Henkes (Greenwillow). What happens when a child's name is the object of jokes and ridicule? A wonderful lesson for both children and adults.

Cornrows, Camille Yarbrough (Coward-McCann). Using the patterns of cornrows to explore the richness of African traditions, past and present.

Crow Boy, Taro Yashima (Penguin). Set in a Japanese village, a schoolboy gains self-confidence.

Doctor De Soto, William Steig (Scholastic). An intriguing book about ethical decision making. Timely.

Emily, Michael Bedard (Doubleday). Provides a glimpse into the world of the poet Emily Dickinson, a perspective that children might share.

The Giving Tree, Shel Silverstein (Harper & Row). A story about giving and receiving.

How Many Days to America? Eve Bunting (Clarion). A Thanksgiving story. Pilgrims as people who came to America to start a new and better life. Special emphasis is given to people from a Caribbean island who need to flee oppression.

How My Parents Learned to Eat, Ira Friedman (Houghton Mifflin). A delightful book that focuses on how cultural differences can be appreciated when there is love and understanding.

Julius: Baby of the World, Kevin Henkjes (Greenwillow). The world of sibling rivalry.

Just Us Women, Jeanette Caines (Harper Trophy). A lovely story about female relationships.

Leo the Late Bloomer, Robert Kraus (Windmill). A book about patience for students, teachers, and parents.

Oasis of Peace, Laurie Dolphin (Scholastic). A timely photographic essay that takes a look at a unique Arab-Jewish community that promotes harmony between both cultures.

Old Henry, Joan Blos (William Morrow). A wise and humorous book about different kinds of people learning to get along. A good book to begin discussion on gentrification and homelessness.

Paul and Sebastian, R. Escudie and U. Wensell (Kane/Miller). A book that points out the silliness of prejudice.

Rich Car, Poor Car, Bernard Waber (Scholastic). Are material goods the most important thing? Comparing and contrasting different lifestyles.

The Sneetches, Dr. Seuss (Random House). What makes one group of sneetches better than another? Dialogue about how people judge each other.

Story of Ferdinand, Munro Leaf (Viking). A shy, sensitive bull explodes the myth of fierce, fighting bulls.

The Terrible Thing that Happened at Our House, Marge Blaine (Scholastic). A mother returns to work. A child's perspective.

The True Story of the Three Little Pigs, Jon Scieszka (Viking). The classic fairy tale told from the wolf's perspective. Readers are challenged to reflect on character and point of view. Funny.

Tusk, Tusk, David McKee (Kane/Miller). The eternal story of a conflict where no one wins. Conflict resolution.

Village of Round and Square Houses, Ann Grifalconi (Little, Brown). True story of a tribal African village where men and women play different roles from those in the United States.

William's Doll, Charlotte Zolotow (Harper Trophy). A book that encourages a nonsexist approach to playing.

REFERENCE BOOK COLLECTIONS FOR CHILDREN

The Ancient World: The Mayas, Pamela Odijk (Silver Burdett). Other cultures featured in the series: the **Aztecs**, **Chinese**, **Egyptians**, **First Africans**, **Greeks**, **Hebrews**, **Incas**, **Japanese**, **Phoenicians**, **Romans**, **Sumerians**, **Vikings**.

Children of the World, Gareth Stevens (Gareth Stevens Publ.). Many books in this series.

Getting to Know the World's Greatest Artists: Paul Gauguin, Mike Venezia (Children's Press). Other artists featured in the series: **Botticelli**, **Mary Cassatt**, **DaVinci**, **Francisco Goya**, **Edward Hopper**, **Paul Klee**, **Michelangelo**, **Monet**, **Picasso**, **Rembrandt**, **Van Gogh**.

Images Across the Ages: Chinese Portraits, Dorothy & Thomas Hobbler (Raintree, Steck & Vaughn). Other "portraits" in the series: **African Portraits**, **Italian Portraits**, **Mexican Portraits**.

Inventions that Changed Modern Life, Lois Markham (Raintree, Steck & Vaughn). Other books in the series: **Leaders Who Changed the 20th Century**; **Events that Changed American History**; **Battles that Changed the Modern World**; **Disasters that Shook the World**; **Explorers Who Found New Worlds**.

Let's Discover Canada: The Northwest, Pierre Berton (Chelsea House). Other books about Canada featured in the series: **Alberta**, **British Columbia**, **Canada Facts & Figures**, **Manitoba**, **New Brunswick**, **Newfoundland**, **Nova Scotia**, **Ontario**, **Prince Edward Island**, **Quebec**, **Saskatchewan**, **the Yukon**.

Peoples & Culture Series: Africa, James I. Clark (McDougal, Little Co.). Other countries and regions featured in the series: **China**, **India**, **Japan**, **Latin America**, **the Middle East**, **Southeast Asia**.

Silver Burdett Countries: China, Anna Merton & Shio-Yun Kan (Silver Burdett). Other countries featured in the series: **Germany**, **Great Britain**, **Japan**, **Mexico**.

Southern Africa: The Lands & their Peoples, Stephen Chan (Silver Burdett). Other countries/regions featured in the series: **The Caribbean**, **China**, **Eastern Europe**, **France**, **Great Britain**, **Italy**, **Japan**, **Middle East**, **Spain**, **the United States**.

MORE REFERENCE BOOKS FOR CHILDREN AND/OR TEACHERS

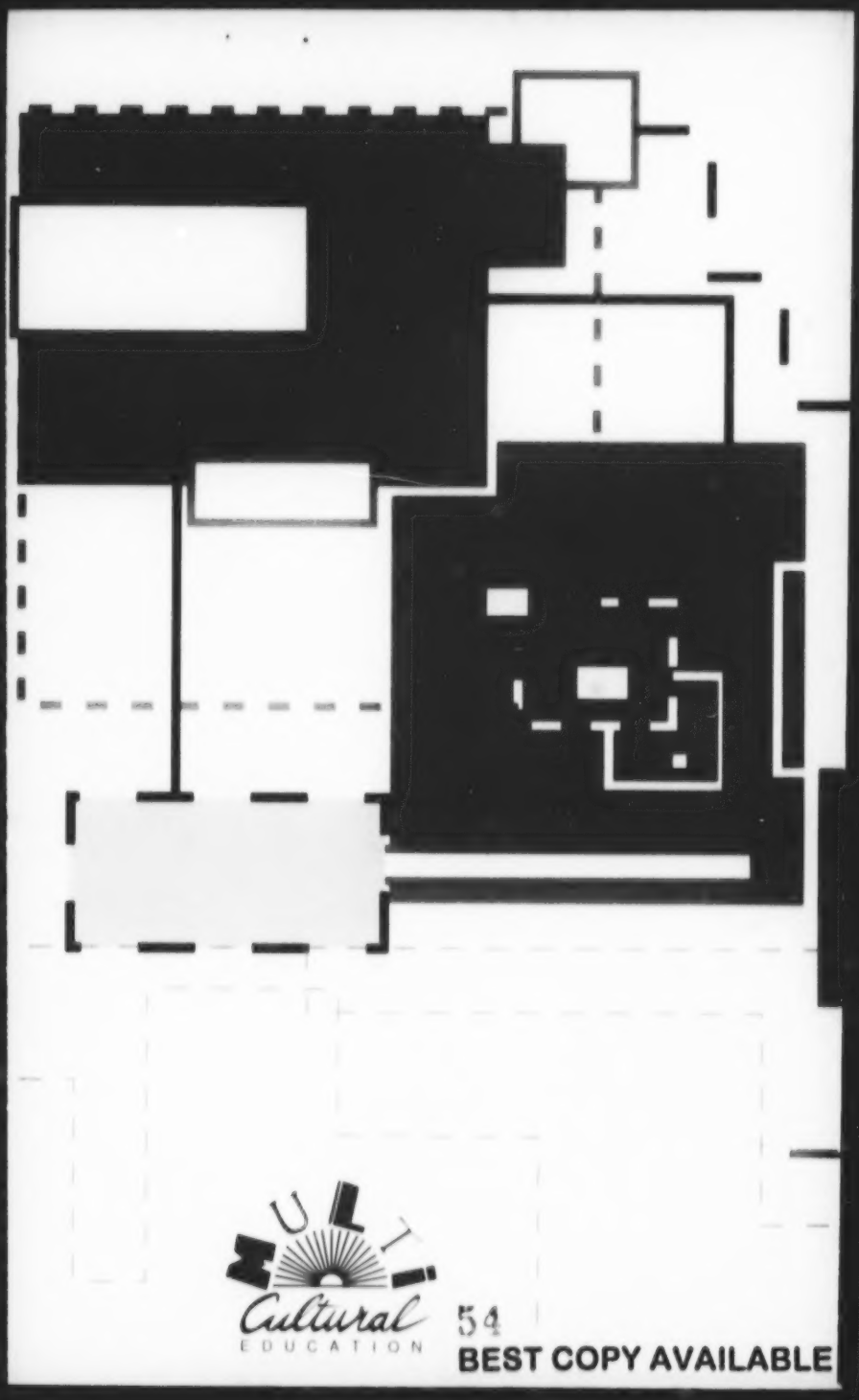
A Bicultural Heritage: Themes for the Exploration of Mexico & Mexican American Culture in Books for Children & Adolescents (Scarecrow Press).

The Black American in Books for Children: Readings in Racism, Donnarae MacCann & Gloria Woodard, editors (Scarecrow Press). Contributors include Eloise Greenfield, Julius Lester, and Walter Dean Myers.

Kids Explore America's African-American Heritage (The Wright Group) and **Kids Explore America's Hispanic Heritage** (The Wright Group). Both titles, written and vividly illustrated by kids, are a fun way for children to learn more about these two rich cultures.

Literature of the Americas, Ulrich Hardt, editor (NCTE). Focuses on the lesser-known literature of ethnic groups from Canada to South America. Includes a book list.

NOTES



MULTI Cultural EDUCATION

BEST COPY AVAILABLE